

persons excepted from pardon was drawn up, including one hundred and fifty-one Londoners. Presumably most of these were outlaws still in hiding. Some of them were caught and brought to justice in the ensuing months, and it is satisfactory to find that they were acquitted by juries sick of bloodshed. As after Eobespierre's reign of terror, the whole nation * resolved itself into a committee of mercy.' Even the two aldermen who had let the rebels into London (and richly deserved hanging) escaped punishment, though their crime was never disputed. Writs against some of the principal leaders remained out for many years, but the work of blood was over.¹

This extraordinary event made a very great impression on the minds of contemporaries. It could not be without influence on the life of the succeeding generation.

Its effect on John of Gaunt and his ambitions was twofold. Its immediate result was to force King and Parliament to protect and favour the victim of the late rebellion. Richard compelled Percy to treat his uncle with respect and loyalty. The House of Commons in November asked for his assistance at their counsels as one of the 'associated lords/ and he was appointed in the same Parliament to a commission for the reform of the household.² But this courtesy towards the Duke was in truth only a proof of his weakness. It was but a protest against the extreme violence towards him which the rebels had shown. The real effect of the Rising had been to curb his ambition, by demonstrating his unpopularity. When King and Parliament renewed their natural hostility, the great noble was in a few years driven from the arena of politics.

The power of the central government to keep order in the country was not permanently strengthened by the reaction that followed the revolt. Disturbances of all kinds went on as before. Town mobs still rioted periodically, retainers still hectored and robbed, serfs still fought with bailiffs for their

¹ *Rot. Part.*, iii. 103, 111-3; *C. B. It.*, 488, Bex. 6 ; *O. R. B.*, 482, Bex. 39, Bev. cxxv.

* *Rot. ParL*, iii. 100, 101.